

1. The Examiner has objected to the Abstract of the Disclosure as being inaccurate. As the Amendment by Applicants to the Abstract of the Disclosure from February 25, 1997 was not entered, this objection is still pending from the Office Action mailed November 25, 1996. Applicants have amended the Abstract of the Disclosure accordingly. The Abstract of the Disclosure should now be in an acceptable condition and reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

2. The rejection of claims 14, 15, 18, 19, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention is respectfully traversed. Examiner states that claims 14, 19, and 21 are inaccurate, as last amended. Applicants have amended claims 14, 19, and 21 to accurately reflect that the vent tube forms a portion of the airway. Thus claims 14, 19, and 21 are now accurate. Claim 18 was rejected as being dependent upon claim 14, which has now been corrected. Claim 15 has also been amended so that it now makes sense. Thus claims 14, 15, 18, 19, and 21 as amended distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Therefore, the rejection of claims 14, 15, 18, 19, and 21 has now been overcome and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

3. Inasmuch as each of the rejections have been overcome and all of the Examiner's suggestions and requirements have been satisfied, it is respectfully requested that the rejections and objections be withdrawn and that this application be passed to issue.

No additional fee is due.